

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st February 2023 in the Clubhouse



1. Introduction

The Chairman welcomed those present and thanked them for attending.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from David Cianfarani and Anne Traynor

3. Minutes of AGM in June 2022

Minutes of the AGM held in June 2022 were approved.

4. Matters Arising

The chairman said that matters arising would be dealt with in his report of the Meeting.

5. Chair's Report

5.1 The AGM was being held 8 months after the last one so that the AGM and approval of the accounts for the last appropriate period could be synchronised again, after the delays caused by Covid.

5.2 Large capital expenditure had occurred in the provision of the two new courts. ETC had proven to be a very reliable contractor and the club owed many thanks to Bernard who had put so much effort into making things run smoothly. The

club still owes his company which did more work than they had budgeted for.

- 5.3 The large expenditure incurred would mean the club would have to be careful in managing its funds, as the development had been accomplished without any fundraising. Many thanks to Caroline and our bookkeeper Emily. The Club could now proceed with smaller projects, such as the fence with DPG. Ultimately the club would have to proceed with enhancing the clubhouse, a project which would need much planning and thought with ideas and recruitment from the membership.
- 5.4 The tree project, suggested by Anna Leslie, had been a great success, and planting was due to be completed in the Spring. We would have a ceremony for putting in the plaques.
- 5.5 The social life of the club had been greatly enhanced thanks to Anna's efforts. Bar takings had risen sharply, and Manjit's social evenings had been a great success. The next event would be the Dulwich Open House where there will be an exhibition of members' art work. Many thanks to Clive Sherlock for organising this.
- 5.6 Sara will explain our plan for rationalising the adult subscriptions so there will be only one peak and off peak subscription. All members will have similar access to courts and social play, as well as streamlining the joining process. We had considered introducing a family membership but this would be very complicated to implement and had been left for the time being.
- 5.7 Many thanks to all the volunteers who belong to the various club committees, including the Tennis Committee, the Finance Committee, Bar Committee etc. John Barton has been very hands on with his Directorship of Clubhouse and Grounds and has replumbed the ladies cloakroom. Many thanks to Mike Samra who back up our IT and website. Mabel has left the Club Committee and we thank her for the contribution she has made.

6.0 Treasurer's Report

Caroline reported that we would end the year with a positive cash position of £50K in the bank until next year's subs came in. The new court had enabled us to increase membership and the online booking system has enabled better collection of floodlight and visitor's fees. Social events had also made a positive contribution. The increase of 10% in next year's subs had been carefully considered. Club costs had been kept under control except for a large increase in the cost of electricity.

We would cut back slightly on capex and keep court maintenance to re-surfacing every ten years, with courts 5 and 6 being resurfaced in 2024.

The 10 year cash flow forecast showed cash reserves building up from £145K in September 2024 to £428K by September 2029.

A vote was taken on adopting the resolution on the Improver category and this was passed.

7.0 Appointment of Independent Examiner

It was reported that Michael Kemp was willing to stand as Independent Examiner.

8.0 Membership Director's Report

Sara Pearce reported that we had 128 new members. The system had been streamlined, with an application form being completed online with the new member attending social sessions with a coach on hand. This had been going on for 2-3 months and seem to be working well and becoming more automated.

Club membership continued to be healthy with a waiting list of 400 people, although 50 had resigned at renewal due to moving or not having sufficient time to play tennis.

The club had decided to take advantage of the midweek availability of courts by offering members on the waiting list the opportunity to apply for off-peak membership. This had resulted in reducing the waiting list to 172 peak and 76 off-peak.

With the completion of the new court, we will admit 40 off-peak and 50 peak members.

There will be a review of membership categories to identify gaps such as family membership.

9.0 Report from Men's and Ladies Captains

9.1 The Ladies' Captain reported that three teams had come on top of their divisions.

9.2 Report on the Men's teams had been included in a previous Chairman's report.

10.1 Election of Club Committee and Tennis Captains.

10.1 Club Committee.

The chair reported that the nominations had been posted on the website and that as none had been contested the following had been appointed:

Club Chair	Nigel Thorpe
Vice Chair	Ivan Savage
Director Membership	Sara Pearce
Director Clubhouse & Grounds	John Barton
Members' Representative	Manjit Roseghini
Social Secretary	Anna Leslie
Chair of Tennis	Bernard Stilwell

10.2 Tennis Captains

The position of Men's Captain had been taken by Jo Reeve

The position of Mixed Captain was taken by Nick Stott.

11.0 Endorsement and Appointment of Treasurer and Executive Secretary

The appointment of Caroline Beck as Treasurer and Joy Jackson as Executive Secretary was approved by the members.

12.0 Any Other Business

12.1 Liz Rowland stated that it was her belief that there would be no coaching on courts 3 and 4. This was not the understanding of those in the meeting.

12.2` Alyson Fox requested that it be made known when there were gaps on the Committee. She also requested that a cash flow projection be done to see what the effect would be if we resurfaced every 12 years.

12.3 There was a general discussion about the lack of good players in social play and there was a discussion about getting Captains to encourage team members to attend these sessions to encourage more participation by members.

Some members enquired about abolishing categories but Nigel reminded them that they had tried to achieve this in 2014 but it had been vote down by the members.

The meeting concluded.